
ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

FISHERY UPDATE



Sam Cotten, Commissioner
Scott Kelley, Director



Contact:
Eric Coonradt

Sitka Area Office
304 Lake Street, Room 103
Sitka, Alaska 99835

Phone: (907) 747-6688

Date: March 17, 2018

Fax: (907) 747-6693

Time: 3:00 p.m.

SITKA SOUND HERRING FISHERY UPDATE #6

Sitka.... An aerial survey was conducted today covering Sitka Sound from Biorka Island to Krestof Sound. Weather during today's flight was good with south winds at 5-10 knots and overcast skies. No herring or herring spawn was observed on today's flight. The highest concentration of herring predators has moved over to the Kruzof Island shoreline between Inner Point and Hayward Strait, where numerous whales were seen working the edge of the deeper waters and several large groups of sea lions were observed in open water near the whales. Predators remain in the Bieli Rock area but not in concentrations observed in previous flights. The sea lion haul-out near Biorka Island still had approximately 250 sea lions, suggesting some herring are still in the deeper waters outside of Sitka Sound. No test fish vessels were available for today, so no samples were taken.

The next Fishery Update can be expected on Sunday, March 18, after the next scheduled aerial survey. The department will place the fishery on two-hour notice and schedule a pre-fishery organizational meeting once test sampling indicates increasing roe maturity.

News releases web site: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main>.

Office	Ketchikan	Petersburg	Wrangell	Sitka	Juneau	Haines	Hoonah	Yakutat
ADF&G	225-5195	772-3801	874-3822	747-6688	465-4250	766-2830		784-3255
AWT	225-5111	772-3983	874-3215	747-3254	465-4000	766-2533	945-3620	784-3220